

In the Claims:

Claims 1-2(Cancelled).

Claims 3-9(Cancelled).

Claim 10(Cancelled).

Claims 11-16(Cancelled).

17 (New). A circuit and method for energizing an electric energy storage device, such as a capacitor, to a very high dc voltage, comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing a circuit, said circuit having an electric power source for supplying electric energy to a control capacitor through a first electrical switch and through an electrical load device, and said circuit also having said electric energy storage device for receiving electric energy stored by said control capacitor through a second electrical switch and through said electrical load device;
- (b) beginning an energizing cycle by closing said first electrical switch connecting said electric power source with said electrical load device and said control capacitor in a series electrical configuration;
- (c) energizing said control capacitor through said electrical load device with electric energy from said electric power source;
- (d) opening said first electrical switch;
- (e) closing said second electrical switch connecting said energized control capacitor with said electric energy storage device and said electrical load device in a series electrical configuration;
- (f) opening said second electrical switch, thus completing one said energizing cycle;
- (g) repeating said energizing cycle until said electric energy storage device is energized with electric energy from said electric power source.

18 (New). A circuit and method for de-energizing an electric energy storage device, such as a capacitor, from a very high dc voltage, comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing a circuit, said circuit having an energized said electric energy storage device for supplying electric energy to a control capacitor through a first electrical switch and through an electrical load device, and said circuit also having a second electrical switch for connecting energized said control capacitor in series electrically with said electrical load device;
- (b) beginning a de-energizing cycle by closing said first electrical switch connecting said electric energy storage device with said electrical load device and said control capacitor in a series electrical configuration;
- (c) energizing said control capacitor through said electrical load device with electric energy from said electric energy storage device;
- (d) opening said first electrical switch;
- (e) closing said second electrical switch connecting said energized control capacitor with said electrical load device in a series electrical configuration;
- (f) opening said second electrical switch, thus completing one said de-energizing cycle;
- (g) repeating said de-energizing cycle until said electric energy storage device is completely de-energized or until no more electric energy is need by said electrical load device.